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With regard Soviet agreement in principle to remove offensive weapons systems from Cuba, following is guidance for Embassy officers in discussions with host government officials and information media:

1. US welcomes Soviet agreement in principle as encouraging step.
2. Many problems remain to be resolved in implementing this agreement; therefore attitude cautious repeat cautious optimism should be adopted.

3. Agreement should not repeat not be characterized as Soviet capitulation.

4. The firm and united stand by the nations of the Hemisphere, acting collectively under the Rio Treaty has produced the latest encouraging results.

5. Khrushchev is dictating what will be done with respect to the weapons in Cuba, not Fidel Castro. Fidel has apparently not even been consulted. He is attempting to introduce new and unacceptable conditions in an effort to disrupt the progress achieved to date towards a peaceful solution.

Drafted by:
ARA:RAHurwitch:dr 10/28/62

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6. The Rio Treaty and all other collective arrangements of the Inter-American system remain in force.

7. The Hemisphere should remain alert to the continuing efforts of the Castro regime to intervene in the internal affairs of other nations, and be prepared to take whatever action, collectively or individually that may be required.

8. By agreeing not to invade Cuba if the offensive weapons systems are removed, the US has not underwritten the permanence of the Castro regime. b1c

We continue to look forward to day when Cuban people will be truly free, free from foreign domination, free to choose own leaders and systems. (cf Presidents October 23 statement).

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